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THE MOLOKAI SETTLEMENT

(ILLUSTRATED)

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VILLAGES

KALAUPAPA AND KALAWAO

ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE TERRITORY OF HAWAII

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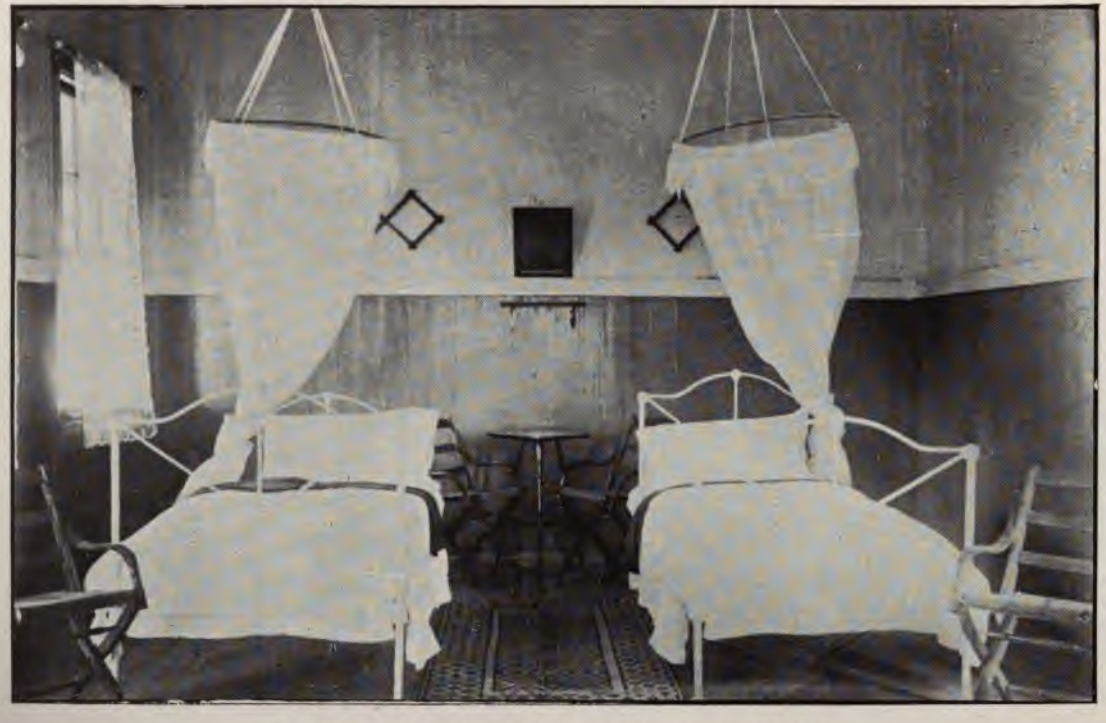
KALIHI RECEIVING STATION—HONOLULU.



VIEW SMALL WARD FOR WOMEN SUSPECTS.

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A variety of entertainments and luaus (feasts) occur from time to time. Races are run, field sports are enjoyed, shooting clubs test their skill at the butts and chess tournaments have disclosed, in a blind lawyer, one of the most remarkable chess players ever known.

On a visit to the Settlement in July, 1906, it was my privilege, with the Superintendent, to enjoy a special entertainment given in our honor, the like of which has probably never before been witnessed.

Twenty-four girls, inmates of the Bishop Home for Girls, gathered in its assembly hall and presented a flag drill, with accompanying figure marching and singing. The pianist was a leper girl. The girls were all dressed in white, each carried an American flag, and executed all figures with precision and without a mistake, while the singing was most creditable. Some faces were pretty, some showed their affliction, but all were attractive to the Superintendent and myself.

When the Settlement is represented as a place of confinement, abandoned hope, a chamber of horrors, the impression is very incorrect. A large correspondence with the outside world is carried on, all letters, however, being disinfected.

Persons not diseased may, from time to time, take short leaves of absence from the Settlement.

The Settlement contains ten square miles, an area larger than the ordinary city man avails himself of.

It has been the aim of the present President of the Board of Health to improve the appearance of the Settlement by erecting a higher class and more attractive style of buildings, that the villages may compare favorably, if not excel, those having a healthy population of like numbers. In the end economy, as well as increased comfort, will result, and the inmates be made more hopeful and ambitious.

We often see in the public press notices of cures of leprosy. Reputable scientific men are eager to announce a "cure" when only an improvement or temporary arrest of the disease has taken place. Were the Board of Health to pursue such a course "cures" would be rather frequently announced, incorrectly, however, for

the disease often lies quiescent and unprogressive for quite a time and then renews its progress.

Dr. Rost of Rangoon, Burmah, was in 1903 quite sure he had discovered a cure, which attracted wide attention and was tried on a great number of cases, but early in 1906 he was obliged to admit failures.

Dr. Wilkinson of Manila, thought a six months' longer treatment with X-Rays would have cured certain lepers. We prefer to await further developments in the above experiment as we fear damage from X-Rays. We, however, have under consideration another treatment by rays less severe in their effect.

The Chaulmoogra Oil treatment practiced by Dr. Dyer in Louisiana we have used for a long time and are employing that treatment continuously. Specifics from Dr. Britton of Paris were unsuccessfully used. Experiments are being made with baths of a solution prepared from the eucalyptus. This treatment seems to be accomplishing much good and is received very willingly by the patients generally.

Other efforts are being quietly made by competent scientific practitioners to solve the problem. Should any reliable discovery be made it will be promptly be made public to the medical world.

There is a class of fakirs who are trying to make money by claiming they have secret remedies for the disease. Patent blood remedies and secret concoctions are continually urged on the Board by persons who never saw and would not know a leper.

Our custom is to ask for references and inform them that, if they will name the ingredients of their remedies we will submit them to competent authorities and consider their use. Invariably they refuse. We can safely conclude they are adventurers seeking only to take a chance at making money.

In January eleven persons will be brought to the Kalihi Receiving Station at Honolulu for re-examination by the Board of Medical Examiners, as their cases are in doubt. I have examined each one physically and conversed with them. If any are found free from the disease I doubt if a single one will accept liberty, but will anxiously request being returned to the Settlement where

infinitely greater degree than other races dwelling among them.

Between forty and fifty years ago the Hawaiians found numbers of their race affected by a disease the most tragic, socially, that ever afflicted mankind, leprosy, which was undoubtedly brought from the Orient, and was designated by the natives as the "Chinese Sickness."

On January 6th, 1866, was established one of the most remarkable institutions in existence: the Leper Settlement on the Island of Molokai. The village is situated on a tongue of land, of some 6,348 acres, that juts into the sea, which surrounds three sides, and, on the remaining side, perpendicular cliffs, from two to four thousand feet in height, form a natural and practically impassable barrier to exit by land. Communication by sea is limited to one steamer call per week from which no person, the Superintendent excepted, is allowed to land, and on which officials only may depart, except by special permit of the Board of Health. The scenery is notable, impressive and rarely equalled.

The growth of this institution has been gradual in scope and administration. Its record has been one of ever-increasing care and kindness, as well as the carrying out of its mission of protection to the general population of the Islands.

In whatever measure severity may, at times in the past, have been used in apprehending lepers, the process of law is now rarely used, for officials prefer to deal with the afflicted ones not as outcasts of society, but as deserving of the same consideration, care and sympathy accorded to persons suffering from other incurable and lingering diseases.

From Government Physicians, covering nearly every district of the Islands, and other sources, information is lodged with the Board of Health that a certain person has, or is suspected of having, leprosy.

As soon as transportation can be secured the President of the Board of Health usually sends a written invitation, either direct or through the Government Physician, to the person suspected, to call at his office or report at the Receiving Station in Honolulu, stating all expenses will be paid, and if found free from the disease the patient will be promptly returned home. If there is any

SAMPLE

KALIHI RECEIVING STATION—HONOLULU.

NEW BUILDING FOR SUSPECTS AND RECEPTION ROOM AND KEEPER'S COTTAGE.

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It is hoped, with the renewed efforts of the United States government and the Territorial Board of Health, many will conclude to perseveringly submit to necessary hospital conditions and treatment, that the disease may be better understood and a cure be sought.

Hope is not denied to those sent to Molokai, for where the evidence justifies re-examinations are held and, if found free from the bacilli, liberty is restored. And here comes the strange fact that for a number of years not one single person so freed has been willing to accept liberty and leave the Settlement. Yet this fact is not strange. Here is a village possessing public and private comforts and utilities vouchsafed to few villages of one thousand inhabitants; that has much that is pleasing and attractive in the village itself, as well as the influence of a fine climate and superb scenery. While the living is simple, the Territorial Government provides ample homes, food, clothing, attendance and medical care free of cost.

Notwithstanding leprosy is a dread disease, it is doubtful if a more generally contented community exists, or one in which security and freedom from apprehension of future want so pervades the people. Happiness and enjoyment prevails to a surprising extent.

Leprosy rarely attacks white races, and lepers, usually early conscious of their trouble, withdraw from public notice and soon find their way to the Settlement on the rather remote and sparsely populated Island of Molokai, hence neither residents of the Territory nor travellers have any grounds for apprehension of a meeting or of contact with lepers.

The Leper Settlement on Molokai is known the world over and is usually described more on the lines of sentiment than fact. This article is written that the true general aspect and spirit of that community may be known. To them individually, as to all mankind, comes eventually suffering and death. Care and consolation is always at hand for them.

The writer excepts the former custom of one-day visits to the Settlement and chooses to remain days within its borders studying the needs and spirit of the people by personal meeting with

individuals; hence this article is penned by one peculiarly qualified to describe and disclose the true facts as to the Leper Settlement on the Island of Molokai, and its people.

The Territory of Hawaii is entitled to the admiration of the civilized world, for it most willingly bears the burden of this one disease at a cost which would relatively cause the mainland of the United States, if similarly afflicted, to care for 532,513 persons at an annual expenditure of $72,278,458.00

He who seeks sunshine will find and transmit it, and he who chooses to dwell on the dark spots only will so darken his picture it will be untruthful.

L. E. PINKHAM,
President, Board of Health.

Kalihi Receiving Station, Honolulu, T. H.

To this station are brought from all parts of the Territory, those persons known to be lepers or suspected of having the disease.

As shown in the illustrations this station has been made as attractive as our means allow. There are single rooms for separation. Healthy cooks are employed.

The determining factor in settling the fact of the disease is the finding in the flesh of the patient the bacilli lepreae. This is determined by a microscopical examination by the Bacteriologist of the Board of Health. If the bacilli cannot be found the patient is returned at once to his home, the whole incident being without expense to himself.

If the bacilli is found the patient is held for examination with others before the Board of Examining Physicians, five in number, who independently pass upon each case after thorough examination. If four declare the patient to be a leper he is so declared. Later the Board of Health officially confirms the finding of the Physicians and orders the declared patients to be sent to Molokai, to which place they are transferred at early convenience.

The following rules will show how carefully the rights of the leper or suspected personage guarded.

EXAMINATION OF LEPERS.

WHEREAS, Under Sections 1122, 1126, 1127 and 1129 of the Revised Laws of the Territory of Hawaii authority is given the Board of Health.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That all previous rules for the examination of lepers are hereby repealed; and further

RESOLVED, That all future examinations of any person or persons for the determination as to whether or not they are affected with the disease leprosy, shall be conducted under the following rules:

FIRST: The Board of Examining Physicians shall consist of five physicians, appointed by the Board of Health, one of whom shall be the Bacteriologist of the Board of Health and another of whom shall be skilled in the use of the microscope for the discovery of the bacilli of leprosy, and be designated as the Assistant Bacteriologist.

SECOND: The Bacteriologist of the Board of Health shall promptly make a perliminary examination of each person coming voluntarily or otherwise under the control of the Board of Health under the suspicion of or being alleged a leper. At said preliminary examination should the Bacteriologist fail to find the bacilli of leprosy present within such person, then said person shall be immediately discharged and returned to his home at the expense of the Board of Health. Should the bacilli of leprosy be found present within such person, said person shall be held for examination at the next meeting of the full Board of Examining Physicians.

THIRD: Each person so held shall be given one week's notice of the meeting of the Board of Examining Physicians.

FOURTH: Each person so held shall have the privilege of being represented at said meeting of the Board of Examining Physicians, by a physician selected and employed by such person. Should said physician object to the decision of the Board of Examining Physicians he shall do so in writing, stating his reasons therefor. Upon receipt of such written objection the President of the Board of Health shall direct both bacteriologists of the Board of Examining Physicians to make a re-examination of such person at which re-examination said physician may be present. They shall report to the President of the Board their findings, and he shall transmit a copy of same to the physician representing such person. Should both bacteriologists find the bacilli of leprosy to be present within such person the decree of the Board of Examiners shall be final; otherwise such person shall be treated as a "suspect," and shall be required to report for further examination as the Board may direct.

FIFTH: All persons examined by the Board of Examining Physicians shall be placed in one of the following classifications, viz: Not a Leper; Suspect; Leper.

If in the opinion of three or more of the examiners any person examined is a "suspect" he or she shall be so declared.

If in the opinion of three only of the examiners any person is a "leper," he or she shall be classed as a "suspect" with the condition that he or she report to the Examining Board as it may direct for re-examination.

If in the opinion of four or more of the examiners any person examined is a "leper" he or she shall be so declared.

NOTE: Should any patient require and request medical counsel the Board will furnish same free of cost to the patient, if the case justifies the procedure.

MOLOKAI SETTLEMENT

Territory of Hawaii.

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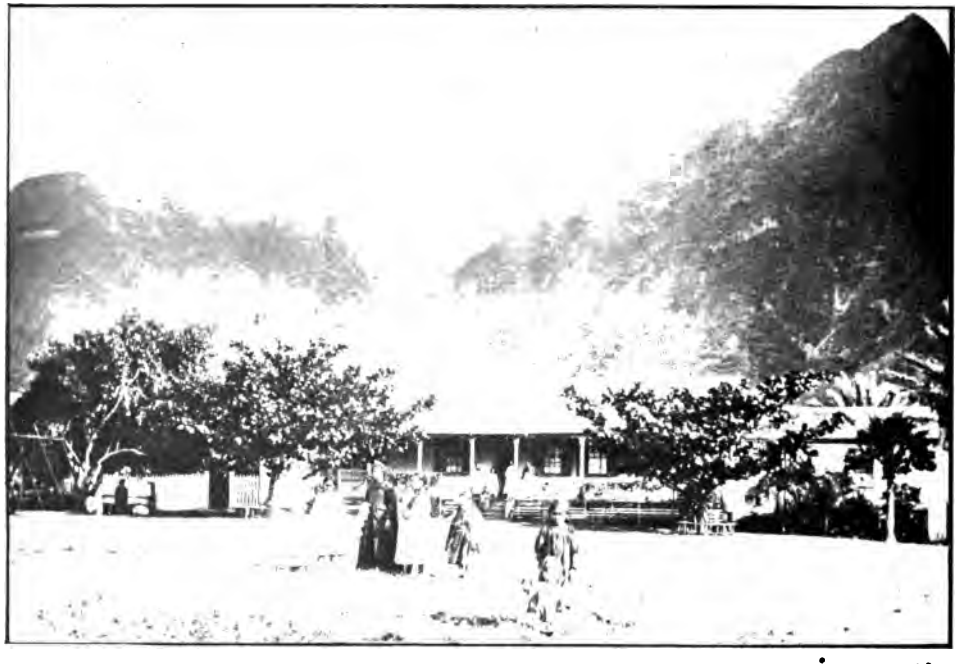

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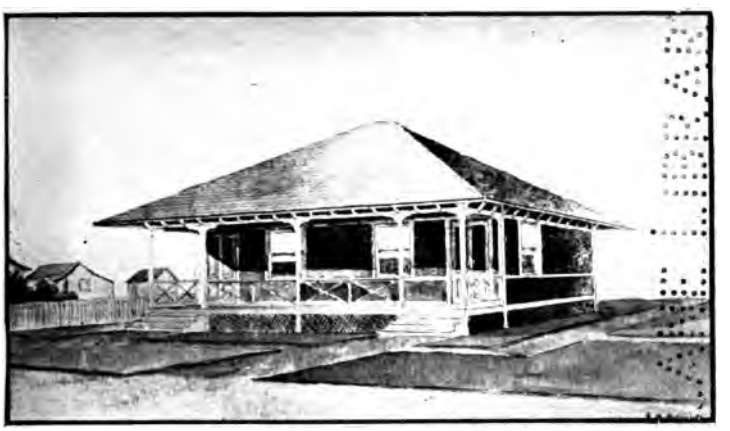

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INCLUDES DRUG, LABORATORY AND OPERATING ROOMS.

OLD STYLE COTTAGE.

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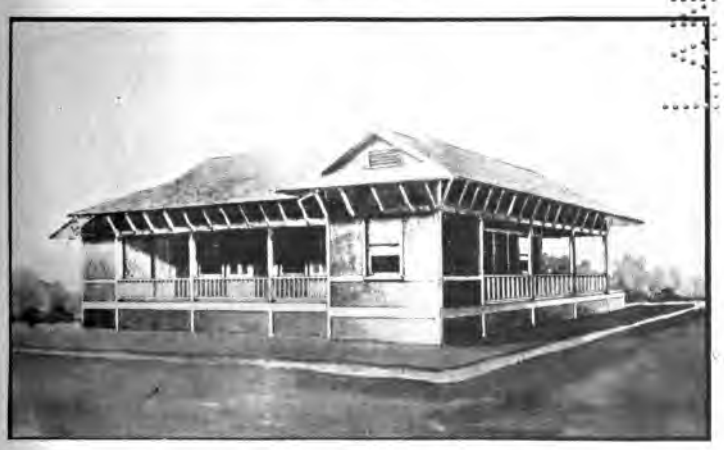

DETATCHED HOSPITAL WARD.

KALAUPAPA.

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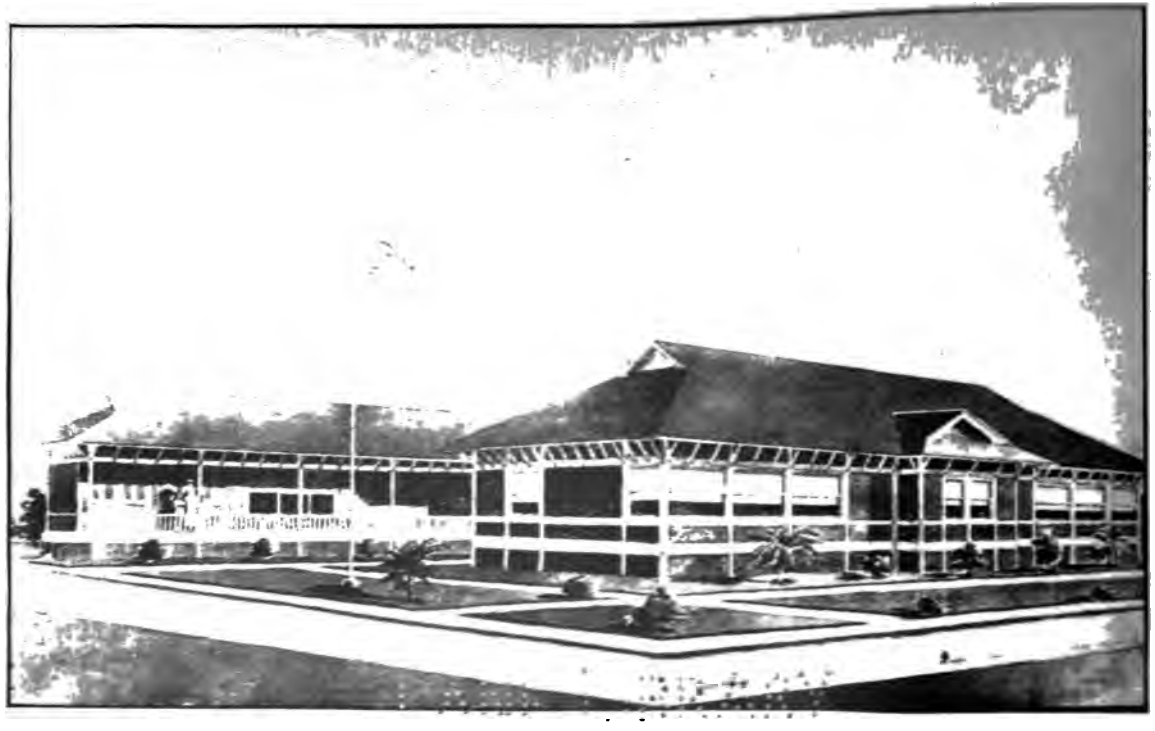

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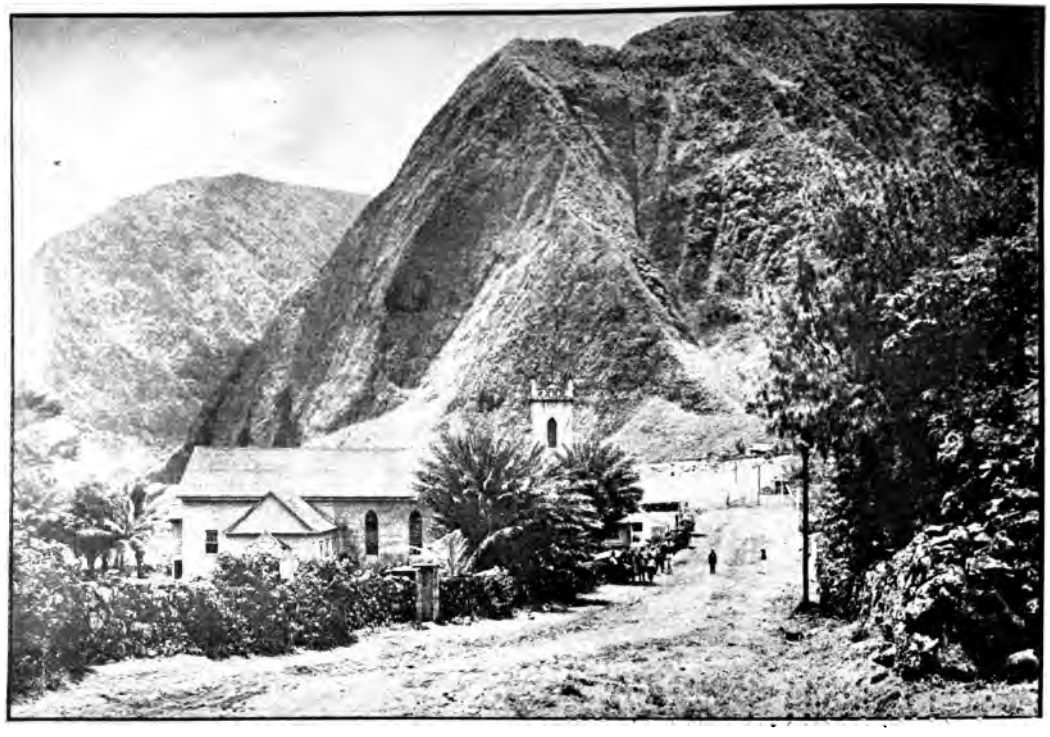
BALDWIN HOME FOR BOYS—KALAWAO- GENERAL VIEW.

BALDWIN HOME.

KALAWAO.



FATHER DAMIEN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH.

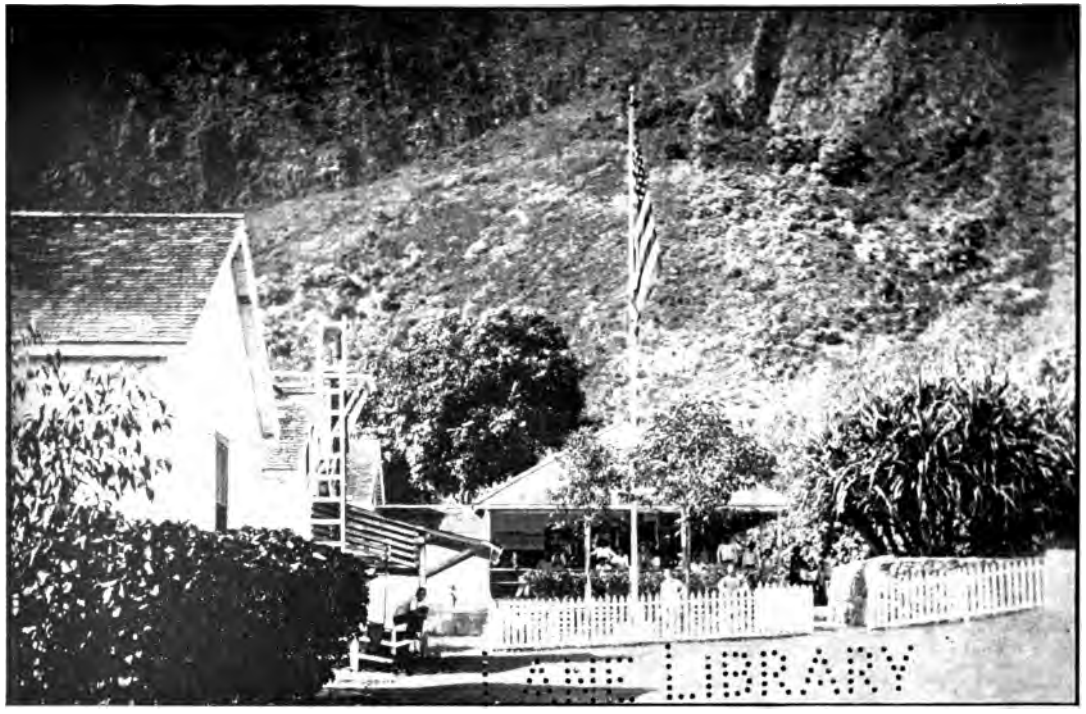
KALAWAO.

PROTESTANT CHURCH.

STRIKING SCENERY NEAR KALAWAO.

U. S. STATION GROUNDS AT LEFT NEAR SEA—CLIFFS OVER 4000 FT. HIGH.

BALDWIN HOME FOR BOYS—KALAWAO.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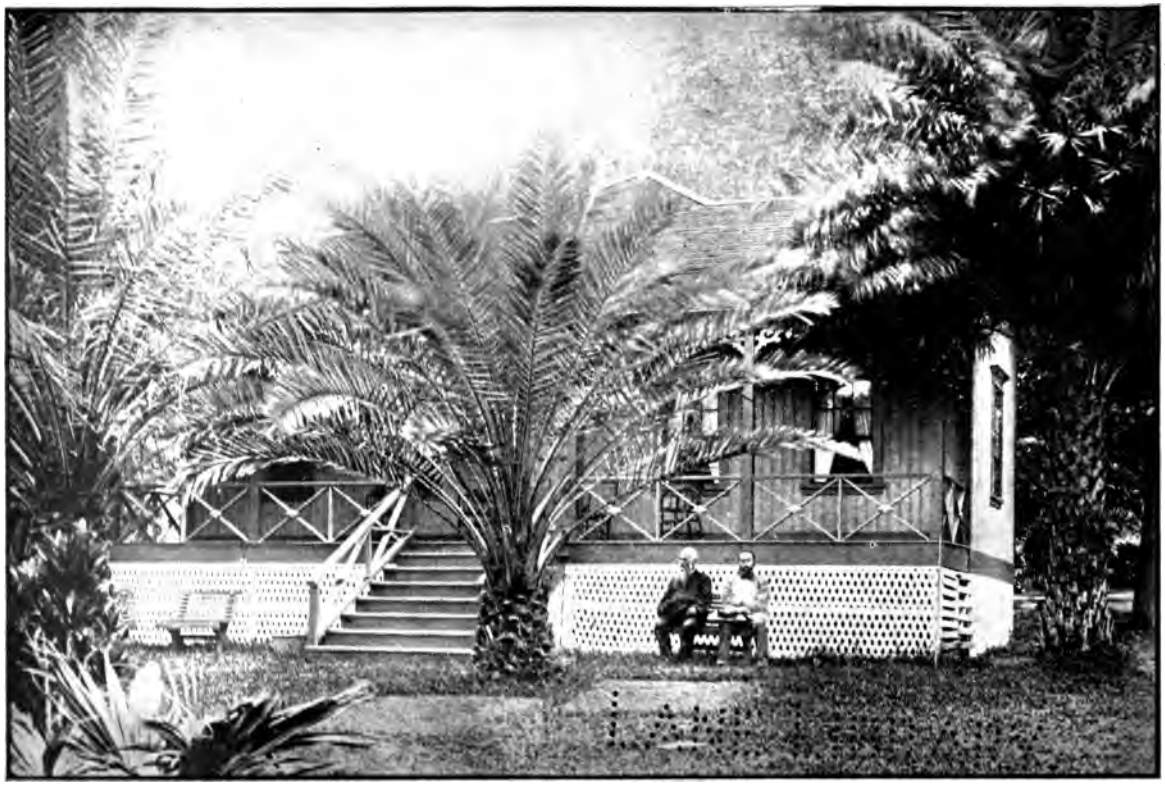

RESIDENCE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE SACRED HEARTS.

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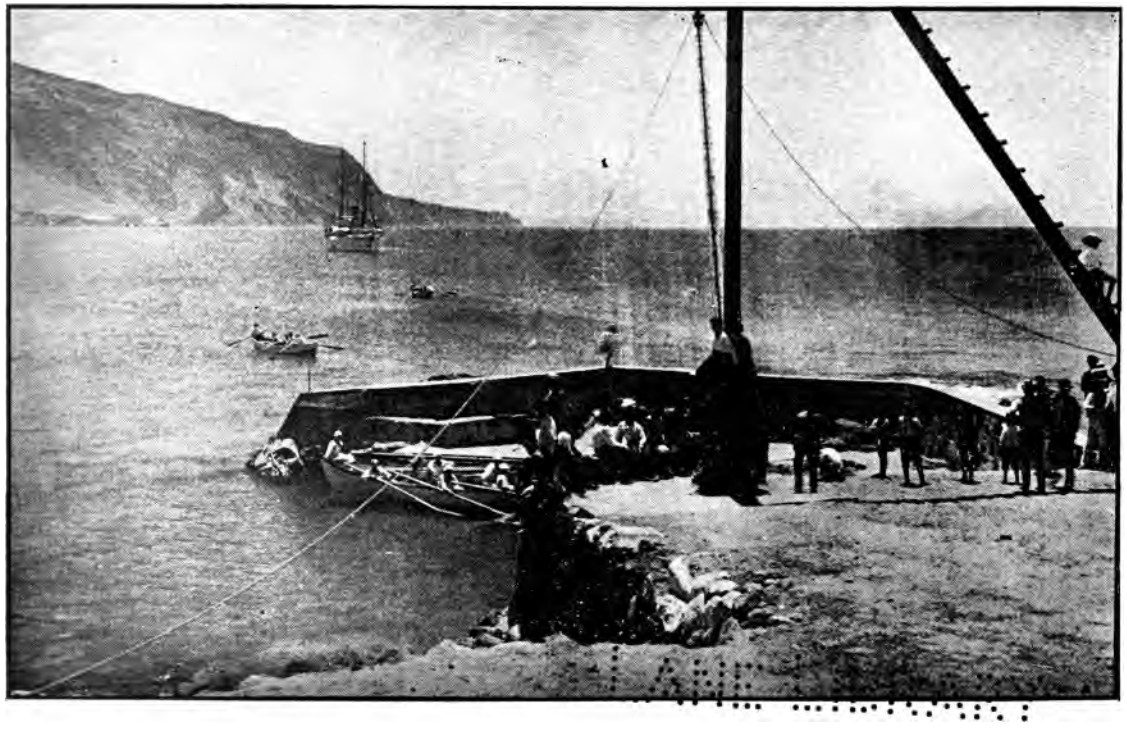

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